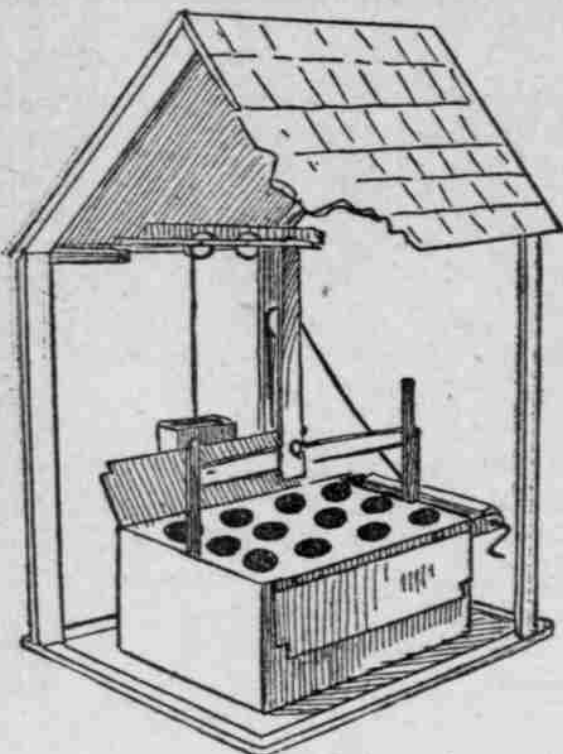


AGRICULTURAL HINTS

HANDY DAIRY WELL.

Description of an Excellent Cooler for Small Dairymen.

A well for keeping dairy products and also fresh meats is a desideratum on many farms. For ordinary use the well should be dug 4 by 6 feet, with a gutter or groove, down one side, 18 inches square. It should contain 2 or 3 feet of standing water. It should be in easy reach of the kitchen, and attached to the house if possible. The curbing should be no larger than the well. A platform, which fits inside the well, slides up and down between two timbers, which rest on the bottom of the well and are long enough to reach up three inches above the curb. These two timbers should be planed. The framework of the platform has a board nailed on each side of it, forming a groove which fits on the upright timbers at each end of the wall. This makes it rigid and keeps it level. The



HANDY COOLER FOR DAIRYMEN.

circular black spots on the platform represent openings for vessels. The piece that holds the wheel, over which the rope passes to the windlass, is prolonged so that when the platform is just even with the top of the curb, an iron pin is inserted through it and the top bar of the platform frame, and holds it there. There is another rope and two wheels. This rope has a heavy weight attached, to assist in raising the platform from the bottom of the well with heavy loads. These weights go down inside a box formed of four wide planks which occupy the gutter or groove. One lid opens up against the weight box, and fastens with a thumb bottom. The other is hinged so as to hang down beside the curb when open.—Farm and Home.

ABOUT MILK FEVER.

How to Prevent a Disease That Has Killed Thousands of Cows.

Milk fever is a disease to be dreaded by the man who has first-class dairy cows, and who feeds and cares for them in such a manner as to make them large producers. The man with scrub cows, that have to rustle for themselves during the winter round the straw stack, never suffers from loss by milk fever when his cows come in in the spring. It is true he gets no profit out of his cows, and he rarely gets product enough from them to pay for the little feed and care they do have. But he can and does console himself by saying he never has milk fever with his cows like those men do who "stuff and pamper and baby their cows."

We have lost, within the past 15 years, several valuable cows with this disease. We think we now know how to prevent. A heifer with her first calf never has it and very rarely with the second calf. A cow that is milked continuously, right up to calving, is not liable to have milk fever, at least, we have never known one to. We hesitated to write that last sentence for fear some one would accuse us of advocating continuous milking. That we do not, but still feel bound to state that fact. A cow that is starved, or fed just enough to live on, will never have milk fever.

Our way is to dry the cow up six or eight weeks before she is due to calve (unless she is such a persistent milker as to make that impracticable); at the same time reduce her feed, by taking nearly if not quite all the grain from her. Her bowels should be kept loose. If the cow is in flush pasture, and she is one you have reason to believe likely to have milk fever, the only safe way to do would be to keep her upon dry feed. We know it is hard for the man who has been in the habit of "babying" and petting his cows and feeding them to their full capacity to refuse them all they want to eat, but it is the only safe way to do with some of them. After a cow has had milk fever once she is more liable than other cows to have it again, and if she does have it a second time she will be always most sure to die.—Board's Dairyman.

Sorghum for the Silo.

While no kind of grain as feed can supersede corn in cheapness and value, sorghum is a formidable rival to it for fodder, especially when put up in the silo. It stands drought better, which is likely to make it popular in the arid portions of the west, where corn often fails. The sorghum has too tough a stalk to feed green, but when cut and put in the silo there is enough fermentation to soften the stalks so that they can be eaten. The sweetness of the sorghum furnishes carbonaceous nutriment just as does the starch of corn grain, and in even more palatable form. Wherever cane sugar is made in the south the workmen who attend the grinding always grow fat from the sugar they eat.

Clean pastures, with good, clean water and proper care, is the surest preventive of bitter milk. Weeds, especially ragweed, cause bitter milk.

Ventilate the cellar in which you are to store fruit.

Water will often save a dying tree or vine.

THE COST DIVIDED.

New Jersey's Road Improvement Law Is Just and Fair.

The farmers of the country are gradually going over to the belief that good roads are for their personal benefit and there is a decided change of sentiment along the line in many of the states. One of the chief obstacles to the reform has been the fear of the farmers that the cost of highway improvements would fall chiefly on them and as they feel that they are already burdened heavily enough they resist the passage of good-roads laws with their local influence and their votes often to the defeat of these worthy projects. New Jersey has a law now in force, however, that illustrates how properly this burden can be divided between the individual and the community so that it falls lightly upon the farmer. This law apportions the cost of all road improvements as follows: One-third is paid by the state, one-tenth by the individual beneficiary of the improvement, and the remainder by the county in which the improvement occurs. Reduced to a scale of fortieths the state pays ten parts, the individual three parts and the county seventeen parts. Stated in still another way the various burdens are more easily appreciated. The average cost of repairing a road with a macadam finish is about \$3,000 a mile. Of this sum the county would pay \$1,700, the state \$1,000 and the individual \$300. It is to be remembered that the \$300 in this case is usually divided among several persons, as few properties in this section of the country extend for much more than a quarter or half a mile along a highway, and the tax is assessed on the owners on each side of the road. Thus it will frequently occur that the individual will pay directly for a first-class road in front of his property and for a mile adjacent such a small sum as \$40 or \$50. To be sure he pays as well his share of the county tax and in less proportion his part of the state tax, but these burdens are comparatively light and easily borne. These improvements in New Jersey are undertaken on the petition of the owners of the adjoining property. Such laws as this, if copied in other states, would probably result in an immediate betterment of the country roads in every section, an improvement of untold benefit to millions of people.—Washington Star.

RURAL EXISTENCE.

Building of Good Roads Will Make It Delightful Indeed.

Wherever experiments in rural mail delivery have been made it has been found to work most successfully—during clear weather when the roads were all right. Which indicates how indissolubly linked together are the problems of good roads and the uplift of the social life of the farm.

The farmer has come when the American farmer has sit down to think out this question of good roads and how to get them. It is not an exaggeration to say that to the future of American agriculture few things bear so important a relationship as does the question of good roads. Indeed, if the generation now growing up on the farm is to be kept on the farm, better social advantages will be found absolutely necessary; and what single thing could contribute so much as good roads to the elevation of life upon the farm?

But the whole question is being discussed in a desultory and indeterminate way, which promises nothing for the future. Organized effort, in which the wheelmen of the town and the farmer of the country should stand shoulder to shoulder, must be put forth if substantial advance is to be made. With the harvests out of the way, there should be set on foot a movement looking to this end.

With good roads farm life will have all the delights of rural existence, to which will be added the advantages of the town, of a daily mail, of social intercourse with neighbors, of musicales and lectures brought near. Good roads will transform the farm, which so many now desert for the city, into the most attractive of homes, and give once more to agriculture first place among the professions and occupations of life.—Farmers' Voice.

Grain Cheaper Than Hay.

It is undoubtedly a serious loss to have so much of the hay crop injured by excessive rains, as has been the case the present year. Yet this may be in part made an advantage to farmers if it turns their attention to grain as a cheaper source of nutrition than even the best hay can be. More than this, if given with enough hay or straw or cornstalks to distend the stomach, grain is better food because more easily digested. In the coarser fodder so much of the nutrition goes to sustain animal heat or the processes of digestion, that comparatively little is left to make flesh or milk or fats. The knowledge that some grain with hay makes cheaper nutrition is not half so widely extended as it ought to be. If it were there would be a better demand for grain and it would sell at better prices.—American Cultivator.

Waldorf Fruit Salad.

Take half a pound of cherries, the sticks and stones having been removed, some fresh strawberries and raspberries, with a few slices of pineapple, one-quarter pound of white and red currants. Sprinkle over the fruit plenty of powdered white sugar, four tablespoonfuls of brandy and two tablespoonfuls of maraschino; shake and stir the fruit about lightly until the sugar is dissolved, then add the strained juice of two oranges. Take a thin china basin, which has been placed in ice, pour in your fruit, and allow it to become cool, then serve. The fruits that compose such a salad of course vary with the season, but the method of treatment for any mixture of fruits is substantially the same.—Boston Globe.

Trees for planting can never be bought cheaper than they can this fall.

OUR RAILROAD MILEAGE.

Irregularly Distributed Over the Country and Growing Unevenly.

New York is the first of the states in respect of population, Pennsylvania is second. Texas is the largest of the states, California is the second largest. Yet neither New York, Pennsylvania, Texas nor California stands first in respect of railroad mileage; that distinction belongs to Illinois. The railroad mileage of Illinois exceeds 10,600. The significance of that figure may be understood when it is known that the railroad mileage of Russia is only 25,000. Second in the list of states in railroad mileage is Pennsylvania. New York comes sixth, Kansas, Iowa and Ohio being ahead of it. Kansas has a railroad mileage of 8,900; Iowa of 8,500; Ohio, of 8,700, and New York of 8,200. The railroad mileage of New York, small as it is by comparison with that of some other states, is large when compared with that of some European countries. The mileage of Spain, a nation of 16,000,000 people, is only 7,500, and that of Portugal is but 1,500, though the population is three-quarters as large as that of the Empire state. Montana, with an area of 146,000 square miles, has only 2,700 miles of railroad, while New Jersey, with only 7,800 square miles, has 2,200 miles of railroad. Utah and Minnesota are almost exactly of the same size, and the little difference which exists between them is in favor of Utah, but Minnesota has only 1,300 miles of railroad while Utah has 6,000. Nevada and Vermont have almost to a mile the same railroad mileage, but Nevada has an area of 110,000 square miles and Vermont an area of only 9,000.

The total railroad mileage of England is 14,000, less than that of Illinois and Indiana together, and the total mileage of the United Kingdom, England, Scotland and Ireland (there is a larger railroad mileage in Scotland than in Ireland), is less than that of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. The disparity between the states in the matter of railroad building is increasing, for new lines are being pushed constantly in some sections of the country while others are neglected. In Connecticut, for instance, the present railroad mileage has increased less than 100 in the last 17 years, though in the same period the railroad mileage of Florida has increased from 518 to 3,000. Virginia has doubled its railroad mileage since 1880; so has Kentucky; but Washington state has increased its mileage in the same period from 289 miles to 2,890 miles.

It is supposed popularly that there has been less railroad development in the south than in many of the northern states, but the contrary is true. From 1880 to 1895 the railroad mileage of the middle Atlantic states—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland—increased 50 per cent., and that of the five north central states—Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin—60 per cent. But in the same period the railroad mileage of what are called the Mississippi valley states—Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky and Tennessee—increased 100 per cent., and the railroad mileage of the South Atlantic states—Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, West Virginia and Florida—increased 120 per cent. The average cost of constructing a mile of railroad is \$65,000.—N. Y. Sun.

PREHISTORIC CANAL BEDS.

Long Buried Irrigation System in Arizona Uncovered.

A western correspondent furnishes something doubly curious about the engineering resources of the ancient past, and the contriving abilities and resources in the west in the present industrial era:

"During my last visit to Arizona I saw in the Salt River valley a sight that would strike a stranger as queer. A steam dredging scow, such as is used in deepening rivers and harbors for navigation, was voyaging slowly and steadily through a wide strip of arid desert. It was started landward from Salt river, and was excavating its own channel ahead, the river waters following and floating it as it advanced. But the work done was not, in fact, the making of a new channel, but the digging out of an old one, the irrigating canal made by a civilized people that lived and flourished and departed before recorded American history began. That there was a time when this wide valley, now being again redeemed to man, was a garden of plenty, teeming with inhabitants, is shown by the extensive and regular system of broad canals leading from the river, through which water for irrigating was conveyed for centuries. With drifting sand and earth, these canals still are plainly indicated on the face of the ground, and so skillfully were they planned and built that modern engineering science applied to irrigation can do no better than retrace their course and restore them. What race laid out the canals and built the towns whose ruins are strung along the valley is a question not yet settled by archaeologists. Aztecs or Toltecs, or each in their turn, probably tarried here in their centuries and southward to the valley of Mexico, and the ruins may be of an older people than either of them."—Mining and Scientific Press.

Weeds Good to Eat.

A botanist insists that many neglected American weeds are good to eat. The tender young shoots of milkweed are said to be as delicious as asparagus, with similar valuable properties. Pigweed is related to beets and spinach. The nettle is well flavored, though somewhat coarse and stringy, which argues that the donkey may be more of an epicure than is supposed. It is suggested that every weed has an honest value if it could only be discovered.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

German Nation Grows.

The annual increase of the German nation during the last five years has been more than five times as much as that of the French.—Chicago Chronicle.

WHERE THEFT IS LEGAL.

Land Where a Man Wears All His Clothes in Order to Keep Them.

A land where wholesale thieving is legalized and where the sixth commandment has never had any recognition is the queer little republic of Herero, situated in the Damaraaland region of South Africa, near the domains of Paul Kruger.

Neither love nor money in any quantity could buy even an inch of ground in the republic of Herero, for everything there is common property. Even the birds of the air, the fishes of the river and all the game of the woods are common property.

One man cannot safely own even two shirts in Herero, for so great is the liberality of communistic freedom that unless a man keep his personal belongings directly under his eye his neighbor is at perfect liberty to help himself.

Rev. Carl G. Butner, a German missionary, has made a study of these odd people, and he illustrates the absurd lengths to which the communistic principle is carried by telling of an incident which happened to him down there.

"A wealthy old chief who had hundreds of dependents, possessed numerous articles of European clothing without owning one complete suit of clothes, yet every time he went out from his hut he would put on all of his clothes, no matter how hot the weather might be.

"He came to me to be photographed one day, having on a pair of shoes, three pairs of thick moleskin trousers, a waistcoat over an indefinite number of shirts, a large shawl around his body, a thick jacket, a shawl around his neck, with a large dressing gown over the whole, and on his head a kerchief, a Calabrian cap and a velvet cap with pearl ornaments, and all this in a heat in which his aboriginal nakedness would have made him much more comfortable.

"When I asked him why he wore so many things at once he said that he was afraid that if he left the garments at home the members of his household would appropriate them to their own use.

"If a man's clothing is put into a box or trunk and the cover is securely tied down they would be entirely safe, for the Herero law makes it stealing to take clothing thus secured, but if the lid is left open or is not tied down the law allows anyone to help himself to whatever he pleases.

"Any man can build a house for himself on any plot he finds vacant, and the house and plot are his own property as long as he personally occupies them, and no other man can come along and force the first man out."—N. Y. Journal.

Prejudice Easily Overcome.

A curious incident characteristic of the proverbial conservatism of the Chinese occurred when the first cable was laid along the coast from Peking to Shanghai. Soon after it was laid a lottery drawing came off in Peking, in which many of the residents of Shanghai held tickets. One of the gamblers so far overcame his distrust of the cable as to have the winning numbers sent him, and he bought the tickets bearing them from his more skeptical townsmen, realizing a small fortune on the transaction. At about the same time there was a scanty rice crop in the upper provinces, and a Shanghai merchant telegraphed to Peking instructions to buy heavily, the ultimate result being that he sold out at an immense profit and retired in opulence. After two or three practical lessons of this nature the Chinese came to the realization of the fact that the telegraph is a good thing to have around.—Telegraph Age.

Altogether Improbable.

A story has traveled lately about a stenographer writing 402 words in one minute, but the first question that suggests itself is who is able to enunciate 402 words in a minute for the stenographer to write? Clergymen, in delivering sermons, average perhaps 90 words per minute; political campaign speakers, 110. As a rule, senators in debate don't talk faster than 150 words a minute, and, in spurts, they seldom reach 220. In fact, very rapid readers find difficulty in uttering intelligibly 275 and 300 words in 60 seconds.—Kansas City Star.

THE MARKETS.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 6.	
LIVE STOCK—Cattle, common	\$2 15
Select butchers	4 00
CALVES—Fair to good light	6 00
HOGS—Common	3 50
Mixed packers	4 25
Light shippers	4 40
SHEEP—Choice	3 00
LAMBS—Good to choice	5 00
FLOUR—Winter family	3 75
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red	95
No. 3 red	93
Corn—No. 2 mixed	91 1/2
Oats—No. 2	19
Rye—No. 2	49
HAY—Prime to choice	9 25
PROVISIONS—Mess pork	10 00
Lard—Prime steam	10 45
BUTTER—Choice dairy	11
Prime to choice creamery	20
APPLES—Per bbl.	1 50
POTATOES—Per bbl.	1 90
NEW YORK.	
FLOUR—Winter patent	5 35
No. 2 red	5 05
CORN—No. 2 mixed	35 1/2
OATS—No. 2	23 1/2
PORK—New Mess	9 50
LARD—Western	5 25
CHICAGO.	
FLOUR—Winter patent	5 00
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red	94 1/2
No. 2 Chicago spring	96 1/2
CORN—No. 2	30 1/2
OATS—No. 2	23 1/2
PORK—Mess	8 85
LARD—Steam	4 75
BALTIMORE.	
FLOUR—Family	4 50
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2	98 1/2
Southern—Wheat	95
Corn—Mixed	35 1/2
Oats—No. 2 white	24
Rye—No. 2 western	45
CATTLE—First quality	4 25
HOGS—Western	4 75
INDIANAPOLIS.	
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2	91
Corn—No. 2 mixed	30 1/2
Oats—No. 2 mixed	17 1/2
LOUISVILLE.	
FLOUR—Winter patent	3 75
GRAIN—Wheat—No. 2 red	92
Corn—Mixed	31 1/2
Oats—No. 2	25
PORK—Mess	8 50
LARD—Steam	5 00

THE HEAT PLAGUE OF AUGUST, 1896.

Mrs. Pinkham's Explanation of the Unusual Number of Deaths and Prostrations Among Women.

The great heat plague of August, 1896, was not without its lesson. One could not fail to notice in the long lists of the dead throughout this country, that so many of the victims were women in their thirties, and women between forty-five and fifty.

The women who succumbed to the protracted heat were women whose energies were exhausted by sufferings peculiar to their sex; women who, taking no thought of themselves, or who, attaching no importance to first symptoms, allowed their female system to become run down.

Constipation, capricious appetite, restlessness, forebodings of evil, vertigo, languor, and weakness, especially in the morning, an itching sensation which suddenly attacks one at night, or whenever the blood becomes overheated, are all warnings. Don't wait too long to build up your strength, that is now a positive necessity! Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has specific curative powers. You cannot do better than to commence a course of this grand of first symptoms you will see by the following letter what terrible suffering came to Mrs. Craig, and how she was cured:

"I have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and think it is the best medicine for women in the world. I was so weak and nervous that I thought I could not live from one day to the next. I had prolapsus uteri and leucorrhoea and thought I was going into consumption. I would get so faint I thought I would die. I had dragging pains in my back, burning sensation down to my feet, and so many miserable feelings. People said that I looked like a dead woman. Doctors tried to cure me, but failed. I had given up when I heard of the Pinkham medicine. I got a bottle. I did not have much faith in it, but thought I would try it, and it made a new woman of me. I wish I could get every lady in the land to try it, for it did for me what doctors could not do."—MRS. SALLIE CRAIG, Baker's Landing, Pa.



By the neglect of medicine.

me. I wish I could get every lady in the land to try it, for it did for me what doctors could not do."—MRS. SALLIE CRAIG, Baker's Landing, Pa.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKEN.

One Way to Spell Tomatoes, Five to Pronounce It.

One word in its time has many pronunciations. For instance: Mrs. Housekeeper the other day was doing her morning's marketing. With her had come the stranger who was spending a week or two within her gates. Standing by while she snapped the beans between her fingers to see that they were tender, parted the husks to make sure that the corn was ripe, pulled the pears out of their paper wrappings and conducted herself generally after the manner of a careful housewife, was the clerk, order book in hand, and obsequiousness on his brow. The visitor began it with:

"These tomatoes look nice. Get some—there's a dear!"

To which Mrs. Housekeeper replied: "Why, certainly, if you like them!" Then to the clerk: "How much are tomatoes this morning?"

"I'm not sure; I'll ask, Jim," calling to a fellow clerk, "how much is them tomatoes?"

"I'll ask the boss. Say," passing the word further back, "watcher gettin for tomatoes to-day?"

"Tomats? O, two baskets for a quarter, I guess."

Therefore, to please her guest who loved "tomatoes," Mrs. Housekeeper invested in some "tomatoes" and Jim, who was investigating the price of "tomatoes" for the benefit of a fellow clerk who wanted to know how to sell "tomatoes," was enlightened as to what he should charge for "tomats." And the bystander was left marveling at the infinite variety of "English as she is spoke."—Chicago Chronicle.

Where He Agreed with Him.

"What! What!"

The irate old man choked with indignation.

"You want to steal my child from me, to rob me of my daughter? Why sir!"

His rage got the upper hand of him, and he gaped some more.

"Rascal is no name for you!"

The young man was perfectly calm.

"You bet it isn't," he said, slowly; "and if anybody says otherwise there's liable to be trouble."

In the face of such sublime gall what could the old man do?—Puck.

Prof. Brantank—Newton was a great philosopher. By observing the mere fall of an apple he discovered the law of gravity.

Smithers—That's nothing. By simply biting an apple Eve discovered the gravity of law.—N. Y. Journal.

The Blue and the Gray.

Both men and women are apt to feel a little blue, when the gray hairs begin to show. It's a very natural feeling. In the normal condition of things gray hairs belong to advanced age. They have no business whitening the head of man or woman, who has not begun to go down the slope of life. As a matter of fact, the hair turns gray regardless of age, or of life's seasons; sometimes it is whitened by sickness, but more often from lack of care. When the hair fades or turns gray there's no need to resort to hair dyes. The normal color of the hair is restored and retained by the use of

Ayer's Hair Vigor.

Ayer's Curebook. "A story of cures told by the cured." 100 pages, free. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

LAZY LIVER! YOU KNOW WELL ENOUGH HOW YOU FEEL WHEN YOUR LIVER DON'T ACT.

Bile collects in the blood, bowels become constipated, and your whole system is poisoned.

A lazy liver is an invitation for a thousand pains and aches to come and dwell with you. Your life becomes one long measure of irritability, despondency and had feeling.

ACT DIRECTLY, and in a PECULIARLY HAPPY MANNER ON THE LIVER AND BOWELS, cleansing, purifying, revitalizing every portion of the liver, driving all the bile from the blood, as is soon shown by INCREASED APPETITE for food, power to digest it, and strength to throw off the waste.

ALL DRUGGISTS, MAKE YOUR LIVER LIVELY!

BEFORE THE DAY OF
SAPOLIO
THEY USED TO SAY "WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE."